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Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

**FBIS-AFR-94-177
Tuesday
13 September 1994**

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Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Central African Countries Sign Nonaggression Pact

AB0909100794 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1830 GMT 8 Sep 94

[Text] Member countries of the UN Permanent Consultative Council on Security in Central Africa signed a nonaggression pact this afternoon. It was the first decision made by the fifth meeting of the 11 member countries of the Permanent Consultative Council in Yaounde. Congo was elected as the first chairman of the committee.

On the credibility of the nonaggression pact signed this afternoon, Benjamin Bounkoulou, Congolese minister of foreign affairs, cooperation, and Francophone affairs, expressed his feelings to Jean Martin Lingui:

[Begin recording] [Bounkoulou] The nonaggression pact, as you know, was adopted by member states at the Libreville meeting. Today, conditions have been met for the signing of this agreement before it is submitted for endorsement by our heads of state and government who should normally have done so in Tunis if they had not had problems with their working schedule. This pact will be absolutely credible since Zaire and Rwanda took part in the previous meetings at which the pact was written and adopted.

[Lingui] Will you discuss the Rwandan conflict at this meeting?

[Bounkoulou] Since we are speaking about peace and security in our subregion, we cannot avoid speaking about the hotbeds of tension in the subregion. You followed the long report of our colleague, the Cameroonian minister of external relations, on the current situation in three of the member states, notably Angola, Burundi, and particularly Rwanda which he insisted on, and it is very normal for us to lay stress on this situation in order to see how best we can express our solidarity with the Rwandan people.

[Lingui] And how can this solidarity be shown?

[Bounkoulou] Already, we have planned to send a committee delegation to the spot. Also, at the level of the states, some measures have been taken. I am from Gabon. Before coming here, I realized that some colleagues had been trying to give material assistance. Every measure has therefore been taken to make the least contribution. Regarding certain countries like ours, apart from this meeting, you know that we have been present in Rwanda since the beginning. We have shown our willingness to assist and help this brotherly country. [end recording]

West African Central Bank To Issue New Bank Note

AB0909154694 Bamako Radiodiffusion-Television du Mali Radio in French 2000 GMT 8 Sep 94

[Excerpts] The Central Bank of West African States [BCEAO] informs the public that a new 5,000 CFA-francnote will be in circulation as of 19 September in all member states of the West African Economic and Monetary Union. This bank note is legal tender. The predominant color of the note is blue. It is 161 mm long and 80 mm wide. [passage omitted]

The BCEAO explains that the former 5,000 CFA-franc note will be used simultaneously with the new ones.

SADC Food Deficit Estimated at 3.51 Million Tons

MB1209150894 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1348 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Text] Harare Sept 12 SAPA—The food deficit for the Southern African Development Community [SADC] for the 1994-95 marketing season is estimated at 3.51 million tons, regional Early Warning Unit Project co-ordinator Richard Masundire said on Monday [12 September].

Zimbabwe's ZIANA News Agency reports that while the total requirement for the SADC region is 15.77 million tons, only 12.26 million tons will be harvested.

The current assessments suggested that maize supply in Zimbabwe would be sufficient to cover export commitments currently estimated at 906,000 tons, Mr. Masundire said in the quarterly food security bulletin for August.

Zimbabwe's Grain Marketing Board [GMB] could carry a closing stock of 900,000 tons of maize.

"It is possible the GMB might review its current export plans in light of these latest assessments," he said.

Of the total 3.42 million tons of maize requirements, 1.61 million tons would be for consumption, 900,000 tons would be GMB closing stocks, and 906,000 tons would be for meeting export requirements. "A surplus of 190,000 tons is now projected," said Mr. Masundire.

He said available information on the South African cereal harvest for 1993-94 suggested a large maize crop of 12.5 million tons compared with 8.9 million tons produced last year. A maize surplus of about 6 million tons would be expected.

Although all other SADC countries were assessed as showing cereal deficits of varying magnitude, serious shortfalls were projected for Malawi, Tanzania, and Zambia due to drought.

"Their appeal for international assistance have yielded very little response so far," said Mr. Masundire. "But the maize is there in South Africa and Zimbabwe."

Burundi**Prime Minister Calls Accord 'Important Step'***EA1209203394 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in Kirundi 1700 GMT 12 Sep 94*

[Text] Only nine out of 13 parties taking part in the Kigobe talks signed the government convention on 10 September. Prime Minister Anatole Kanyenkiko gave us his views on the significance of the agreement and on future work.

[Begin recording] [Kanyenkiko] I would like to say first that the politicians have taken an important step. As you heard, political leaders and party leaders, on Saturday [10 September], signed an agreement on how the country would be governed based on urgent steps towards restoring peace and security. This is to help displaced people return home and for the smooth running of the country's institutions, so that every citizen feels secure. Nine out of 13 parties have already signed the agreement. We still hope that the rest will soon follow suit.

[Unidentified reporter] What is your optimism based on for the next round of talks since some people believe that the Constitution will usher in restrictions?

[Kanyenkiko] Due to the current situation in our country and since the present Constitution does not give us the means to extricate ourselves from the problems, politicians are meeting to see how we can resolve the issue. Currently we are hopeful, given the way the politicians reached an agreement, that they will also agree on restoring the presidential institution. Then, other institutions will be restored especially that of prime minister, the government and other positions. [end recording]

Interim President on Developments, Negotiations*LD1209182794 Paris Radio France International in French 0548 GMT 12 Sep 94*

[Interview with Burundi's interim President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya by correspondent Philippe Leymarie; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Leymarie] How long will it take for the country's new institutions to be set up?

[Ntibantunganya] I think now things have been unblocked, everything else can move much more easily. I have the impression that the political forces as a whole—and the most influential ones in particular—have decided to see things move forward more quickly, and I think we will start to see clearly, and indeed, why should we not be able to see the formula now, and why should we not be able to (see) the [word indistinct] of our president of the Republic?

[Leymarie] Was it really a matter of urgency to act like this, or could the discussions have gone on longer?

[Ntibantunganya] It was a matter of urgency because, after all, the discussions cannot drag out for ever. We have seen what happened right next door to us in Rwanda, the extent to which continual discussions that never came to any conclusion, and [word indistinct] the establishment of the institutions led to a serious crisis, and everyone knows the consequences.

As interim president, it is that bitter experience that I have borne in mind, and which I said was essential to avoid here in Burundi. So, you see, the negotiations had been going on for two and a half months and could have started to tire both the negotiators themselves and their political parties, the people of Burundi, and also the friends of Burundi within the international community.

So it was essential for an agreement to be reached soon, and I think that what we have managed to do is in the interests of the Burundian nation as a whole.

[Leymarie] So was there really a danger of contagion, as has often been said recently—contagion from the Rwandan crisis, there in Burundi?

[Ntibantunganya] Well, I think it was possible, and even today we cannot say that it is completely ruled out, but we are working to avoid it.

You know, Rwanda and Burundi have always been called twins, but non-identical twins, with some similarities and some differences in their political and social development. I know that even 30 years or so ago the situation that occurred in Rwanda had an influence on Burundi, and I know too that what happens in Rwanda today can influence the consciousness and the mentality of political circles in particular.

I would say that sometimes some people are tempted to try to copy a model here, a model there: For example, there was talk here, a proposal was made, to have a deputy president of the republic, who would also be in charge of defense. I think you can see that there is a certain similarity with the other side. So you can see that there is no lack of influence.

What we want is for the solution to the Burundian problem to bear the marks, to be the fruit of the reflections of the Burundians themselves, and not to try to copy some system or other. We have particularities that have to be borne in mind.

[Leymarie] One more thing: Your minister of foreign affairs was in Kinshasa recently. Did he get sufficient guarantees from the authorities there, for example, that the Rwandan exiles would not try to provoke a possible destabilization either in Rwanda, or in your country, Burundi?

[Ntibantunganya] I think that as far as the subregion is concerned, we will benefit from our subregion returning to stability. This view is shared visibly by all the high officials and the states of the subregion.

In any case, as well as this mission by our minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, we personally have also talked directly or indirectly about the questions [words indistinct] of the sub-region with certain heads of state. We have seen that this was a concern, and as far as our relations with our great neighbor Zaire are concerned—very good relations in the security area—he has received every assurance that everything will be done to make it possible for Burundi to develop harmoniously.

I can tell you that one of the concerns we have in Burundi is to organize and to hold international conferences on peace, stability, and the development of the subregion, to talk about all these problems connected with peace and stability, taking into account the displacement of the peoples that we are going to see, which, as you say could be sources of insecurity.

[Leymarie] A last point, Mr. Sylvestre Ntibantunganya: What about your personal future in all of this?

[Ntibantunganya] Oh, my personal future will depend on what the Burundians want. Should the Burundians ever say that Mr. Ntibantunganya should be president, then I would answer: Yes.

[Leymarie] If they do not?

[Ntibantunganya] If they do not, that is democratic. I am not the kind of man to yearn for power in a dictatorial way. No. It will depend on the Burundians. I think we must wait for the next few days to see what the Burundians, via the negotiators, will decide. In any case, I will not impose anything.

Zaire Assures Minister Over Former Government Troops

EA1009132494 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 1800 GMT 9 Sep 94

[Excerpts] A Burundian delegation led by Mr. Jean-Marie Ngendahayo, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, has just returned from a working visit to Kinshasa, Zaire. [passage omitted] Upon his arrival at the airport, Minister Ngendahayo spoke to Ildefonce Sabimana on the purpose of his visit:

[Begin recording] [passage omitted] [Sabimana] I am sure you have discussed former Rwandan Government soldiers who are currently taking refuge in Zaire and who constitute a real threat to the whole region, that is to say Burundi, Rwanda as well as Zaire. If you discussed the issue, what do you have to say and what measures will the Zairian Government take to prevent these Interahamwe [pro-Republican National Movement for Democracy and Development] militiamen and former Rwandan Government soldiers from becoming a danger to their country?

[Ngendahayo] We have been given very credible assurances by the various senior officials we met yesterday. And today, before we departed for Bujumbura, we also

held talks with His Excellency Prime Minister Kengo wa Dondo who reiterated in a categorical, definite manner the Zairian Government's intention to work solely towards peace in the subregion. It is thus out of question that any destabilization moves against Burundi or Rwanda could come from Zaire.

[Sabimana] There are even people who say that [dismissed Burundian minister of state for interior] Nyangoma, whose whereabouts are not known, is reportedly in Zaire or coming and going between Zaire and other countries. Was this also discussed?

[Ngendahayo] Indeed, Minister of State Nyangoma was in Zaire but I can assure you that he did not have any official contact with anyone in Zaire. [end recording]

Rwanda

Premier on Army Rearming, Refugees, Amnesty

BR1209131394 Brussels LA LIBRE BELGIQUE in French 12 Sep 94 p 2

[Interview with Rwandan Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu by Gerald Papy in Kacyiru; date not given: "Rwanda Between Confidence and Uncertainty"—first two paragraphs are LA LIBRE BELGIQUE introduction]

[Text] In Kigali, the Council of Ministers is on a scale to match the challenges facing the country. It was 1930 GMT on Friday [9 September] when Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu returned to the fifth floor of the Hotel Meridien in Kacyiru. A gloomy post-war world plunged into semidarkness, with an overwhelming acrid odor of sweat and confinement. The ministers meeting had begun 12 hours earlier. The principal topic of discussion was the illegal occupation of buildings by displaced persons and former refugees from Zaire, Burundi, or Uganda. "Property rights are sacrosanct," Mr. Twagiramungu explains. "It is the government's responsibility to resolve this problem. We must set up reception facilities to accommodate these people in order to allow the true owners to recover their property."

Final meeting with a minister. It is about 2030 GMT when Faustin Twagiramungu welcomes us to his two-room suite which is just like any other small suite in an international hotel. The interview can begin or nearly. The future information minister has just been told that he must indeed attend to be sworn in on Tuesday [13 September].

[Papy] What is the number one priority for Rwanda now?

[Twagiramungu] I have always said that this government's priority must be the return of the Rwandan population at present in Zaire and Tanzania. If this population remains outside the country, that can clearly create other conflicts, as the war we have just seen also originated in the return of Rwandans from outside the

country. The best outcome would be their return and the establishment of a genuine reconciliation policy.

For that, we must find the words to convince the people to return and the refugees must have virtual physical contact with the RPF [Rwandan Patriotic Front] soldiers. But you will realize that the presence in these camps of assassins or those who planned massacres is a major obstacle. What we can do is to ask their host countries to isolate them. It is Zaire and Tanzania which should take measures.

[Papy] There are reports of soldiers of the former Rwandan Army being trained and rearmed?

[Twagiramungu] Who is training them? Those who are rearming them are those who want to see another regional war. Rearming the Army, with the government in ruins, the government which planned and executed the massacres, is clearly a crime against humanity. I do not believe Zaire can dare to keep such soldiers. It would be contrary to the joint communique signed by the Zairian and Rwandan presidents on 25 July on Mauritius. A self-respecting country like Zaire must honor its promise to disarm. The Zairian justice minister stated in Goma that the refugees would have to return by 30 September. We are ready to accept them.

And Zaire must also decide to return to us all the goods carried off by looters, military equipment, office equipment, money.

Insecurity in this region would be a provocation that would inevitably lead us to a regional war. These soldiers had everything. France supplied sufficient arms and then left like thieves. What can you say? We are fighting for an ideal, they are fighting for imported sardines and corned beef. The Army should not be a source of enrichment.

And now they think they can win? They could trigger a regional war. But they must realize that they cannot win. I guarantee you. They will never be able to win.

[Papy] How far should national reconciliation go?

[Twagiramungu] There are those who believe we should hold talks for a general amnesty. Any Westerners who believe this hold Africans in contempt. In 1945, nations got together to condemn Nazism. They even condemned the collaborators, especially in France. What happened here had never happened anywhere in the world. And some people are now saying: "Yes, they are Africans, they can kill each other and then make peace." As I speak, there are organizations who are trying to track down the Nazis all over the world—50 years later.

A general amnesty, the notion is beyond belief. People soon forget: Nearly 1 million Rwandans killed when the West fled. We have agreed for an international tribunal to be set up. That is a good concession, is it not?

The aim in certain conservative circles in Belgium, notably through the Christian Democrat International (CDI), is indeed launching negotiations to reach such an

amnesty. I can tell you these negotiations will never take place. These people continue to hold their outdated ideas based on the country's history, the notion of divide to rule. But we are a single people, we speak the same language, we have the same customs, we think the same way.

People arrived here, they selected the people who were to rule over the others who were condemned to stay in the fields. That continued. And then, in 1959, it changed. They are continuing to divide to the very end. They now point to the RPF massacres. The Bahutus must be protected. Spare us this, if you please! We deserve better than that. They failed in everything. They were unable to protect the people here. We do not understand now why they should come and say there are people being massacred. They did not come to help those who were being massacred before. I tell you, in all sincerity, this government cannot plan massacres. Tell that to the conservatives, this government is scarcely two months old.

There is security in this country now. These conservatives, these CDI people, should proceed very carefully. Those who have misled the people by their statements here or in Burundi, should take responsibility for their words. They are supporting the Palipehutu (extremist Hutu party in Burundi—editor's note), they are supporting the Hutus. Who asked them to support us here? Let them leave us in peace. We are no longer the children of the colonial period. We are here to manage our own public affairs. Leave us in peace. That is all we ask. You can help us, yes. But you cannot always do it by trying to create ethnic conflict.

[Papy] Could cooperation with Belgium and France be renewed on good bases?

[Twagiramungu] Of course. The fact that we criticize the policy pursued by certain countries does not mean we will not agree to cooperation. With Belgium and France? If there is a good partnership, why not?

Despite the delay, we appreciate aid because outside help is absolutely essential. Let us be reasonable, everything has been taken. We have found safes at the National Bank totally empty. Virtually everything has been destroyed. We have to start again from nothing.

'Calm' Deployment of RPF Troops in Southwest Rwanda

LD1109153894 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 11 Sep 94

[Text] Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF] soldiers continue to deploy in the southwest region of Rwanda; they now number 500. The agenda is being respected and everything is taking place amid calm according to the UNAMIR [UN Assistance Mission to Rwanda] military spokesman, Major Guy Plante, who spoke to Julie Svoboda:

[Begin Plante recording] Now there are approximately 210 RPF soldiers deployed in Gikongoro, 180 are in Cyangugu, and approximately 100 are in Kibuye. This is the latest figure for the deployment of RPF forces in Sector Four. All this is the result of a plan well prepared in advance. This is not improvised. This is part of a plan which we are implementing with the government and the RPF Army. This deployment was started very quietly, if I may say so, because we did not want a negative reaction from the local population. So we infiltrated soldiers, some 30 at a time in various towns. Considering the situation, these soldiers were relatively well received, so we are gradually dispatching more and we now have 500 of them. [end recording]

New Planning Minister Appointed

EA1009200494 Kigali Radio Rwanda in French 1800 GMT 10 Sep 94

[Excerpts] The Council of Ministers met at the Urugwiro village yesterday under the chairmanship of His Excellency Pasteur Bizimungu, the president of the Republic, and His Excellency Mr. Faustin Twagiramungu, the prime minister. Colonel Alexis Kanyarengwe, deputy prime minister and minister of labor, was also present.

Before going on to the points on the agenda, Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu introduced the new minister of planning, Mr. Jean-Berkmans Birara, who was participating in the meeting for the first time. [passage omitted]

The Council of Ministers closed its proceedings with a study of the presidential decree dismissing Mr. Denis Ntirugilimbabazi, the former central governor of the Rwandan National Bank whose mandate had expired. The president decree was approved by the government meeting. The meeting ended at 2130.

Uganda

Government Forces Kill 96 Rebels in Northern Crackdown

AB1209221294 Paris AFP in English 1508 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Text] Kampala, Sept 12 (AFP)—Ugandan government forces have killed at least 96 rebels and captured arms and military equipment in a one-and-a-half month crackdown against insurgents in northern Uganda, an army spokesman said here Monday [12 September].

Major Roland Katunguka said the Army offensive against the rebel Lord's Resistance Army had centred on the districts of Gulu and Kitgum about 460 kiLometres (290 miles) north of the capital.

The rebels, led by Roman Catholic catechist Joseph Kony, want to overthrow President Yoweri Museveni's government and to replace it a government established on his version of the Christian 10 commandments—one

of which forbids people from travelling by automobiles and travelling by road. To force obedience to the commandment, the group has laid landmines on roads in the region and effectively prevented UN aid operations in the area from taking place and helping thousands of Sudanese refugees who have fled civil war in southern Sudan.

Katunguka said the government would now not talk to the rebels who, he said, had recently intensified their struggle against the government, resulting in the death of many innocent people.

"Though we are fully committed to receive Kony with open arms, this will not stop the (government army ...) from putting an end to the insurgency in the north," he said.

Katunguka said the government had initiated talks earlier this year with Kony, "but the man just abused it and resumed his senseless war as we were about to reach an agreement."

President Yoweri Museveni then gave the rebels seven days to surrender or else face the might of the armed forces.

Kampala has since accused the rebels of intensifying their struggle and embarking on atrocities including raping women, killing people, cutting off people's lips and genitals.

Kampala accuses the Sudanese government of supporting the attacks, possibly in order to cut off supplies to its own southern rebel region.

The government recently alleged that they had captured a Sudanese army officer in northern Uganda escorting the LRA rebels returning from an arms trade in southern Sudan.

Zaire

Premier on Cooperation Policy, Political Scene

BR0909151194 Brussels L'ECHO in French 9 Sep 94 p 2

[Interview with Zairian Prime minister Kengo Wa Dondo by Didier Grogna; place and date not given: "Kengo: 'I Want Belgium To Support Our Efforts'—first three paragraphs are L'ECHO introduction]

[Text] Whether you like him or not, Kengo Wa Dondo is currently the prime minister and is often presented as being Zaire's last hope. While he does not have unanimous backing, in any event he tries to unite as far as possible all political tendencies in his government and intends taking a gentle approach to his country's traditional partners.

This revived former politician, suspected of having embezzled colossal sums during his previous prime ministerial reigns, now wants to reassure people. He

certainly does not have an easy task, but he remains confident. In particular, he considers he has the confidence of the Higher Council of the Republic-Transition Government (HCR-PT) and that he can work in perfect harmony with President Mobutu.

In this interview with L'ECHO he talks of relations with Belgium, the World Bank, and the IMF, and problems with Rwandan refugees, getting the economy moving again, etc.

[Grogna] The Belgian Foreign Minister recently repeated that he recognized the legitimacy of your government and added that he was prepared to meet with you. How do you view these signs of a warming in Belgian-Zairian relations?

[Kengo] We have always wanted our cooperation relations with our partners to start up again, and especially with Belgium. I believe that the recent declarations mark the end of the diplomatic isolation that Zaire had been in since the unfortunate events of 11 May 1990 in Lubumbashi.

[Grogna] However, Belgium is asking you to take action. What guarantees can you give concerning the respect for human rights?

[Kengo] The new government's statement was quite clear in this matter. Since the government has been in power, we have seen to it that this program is applied.

On the level of basic freedoms, all political detainees have been freed, the public media are now open to everyone, and the press can say what it wants to say, even though it is not always true.

Nobody today can say, despite what is written in a section of the press, that the government has taken any measures against newspaper publishers.

With the press code we would like this freedom to be accompanied with a degree of responsibility. A journalist may be free to write what he wants, but is he responsible?

Moreover, we want to ensure the safety of people and possessions. Elections are scheduled for next year. It must be possible for all the candidates to go to any part of the republic without fearing for their safety or for their possessions.

In any event, to date we have implemented measures proving that we are switching over to a rule of law state. However, you must not forget that, before my election, the state was practically nonexistent.

[Grogna] What guarantees can you give for control over the finances?

[Kengo] The previous government never drew up any kind of budget. In accordance with the public finance law, the Birindwa government survived for the first three months of the year on temporary credits. However, at the end of that period it had still not drawn up a budget.

Since I arrived in office, we have already drawn up a minibudget. An extraordinary session of the HCR-PT will soon be convened to examine and adopt this minibudget for the last four months of the year.

Even though this program is an autonomous macroeconomic program, our Bretton Woods partners would like us to be able to send them details of it so that they can follow us in the execution of our budget.

[Grogna] What are the main lines of this program?

[Kengo] Of course, above all it is aimed at drastically reducing inflation, controlling the currency and public finances, and ensuring a minimum degree of restoration of the basic infrastructures. We should continue this program with the definition of the 1995 budget which we will submit to the HCR during October's budget session.

[Grogna] How will you be able to stick to these commitments?

[Kengo] We must start by living within our means, reducing public expenditure, improving tax collection, and scrupulously controlling the Zairian currency so that it no longer falls as it is falling at the moment on the gray market.

Overall, the economic fabric has been seriously damaged, first because it is outdated, but also because of plundering. The few economic activities currently operating are doing so in very difficult conditions. Moreover, most of the Zairian economy is oriented toward the informal sector.

The government is determined to bring this sector back onto a more formal level so as to broaden the tax base. That requires training and a change in the Zairian people's attitude, they currently work informally to escape taxation. We therefore need to set up various institutional mechanisms that would make this change-over possible and successful. Without shaking it up too much, we have to prepare this sector for integration into the small- and medium-sized enterprise sector.

In addition, we must reactivate the artisanal diamond sector which can today generate sufficient amounts of money and then inject this money into the banking system to ensure the successful progressive restarting of the national economy.

We also have to reactivate the wood sector. Zaire has major tree stocks. We must therefore do all we can to improve the market price list, exports, volumes, etc.

Both of these sectors could temporarily replace the revenues from the Gecamines company which is still ailing. In association with the agriculture minister, we have taken steps to revive the agricultural sector. We have to quickly arrive at a situation where we are self-sufficient for food. I cannot speak of export crops. In the east of the country (mainly in Upper Zaire and

Kivu), coffee disease has decimated most of our plantations and we cannot therefore hope to perform very well where coffee exports are concerned in the next few years.

[Grogna] You want to control the currency, but a recent banknote counterfeiting operation has been uncovered. What steps have you taken to avoid such problems?

[Kengo] We have taken far-reaching measures in the light of the counterfeit banknotes currently in circulation. We have cancelled the contract between the bank of Zaire and Egimex, a company under Belgian law based in Antwerp but with Lebanese backers. They had been importing the banknotes, but the bank never knew the actual amounts being imported. They paid suppliers and took care of transport and deliveries. It is difficult to control the money supply in these conditions. Moreover, we have asked Interpol to investigate because the shipments included counterfeit notes.

The Zairian judiciary is also looking into this affair. The government has taken the necessary steps and is now leaving it up to the justice department to exercise its prerogatives.

[Grogna] Where the Bank of Zaire is concerned, you experienced a few problems with your intention of suspending the governor...

[Kengo] The governor has been suspended and has been replaced by the deputy governor. The bank is, moreover, being audited. When the final audit report has been received we will look at what measures have to be taken.

In any case, all the transactions done since the general treasury account was opened are now controlled.

[Grogna] Belgium also wants you to give guarantees concerning the control of the Army.

[Kengo] In this area, the constitutional transition act is clear enough. National defense and foreign policy are areas of collaboration. To date, relations between myself and the president have been good. I have never noted any kind of breakdown in our relations.

Some people are constantly looking for signs of conflict by whatever means they can find, but since my election nothing has arisen to disrupt our relations.

[Grogna] You are hoping to obtain the support of your partners. What are you going to ask of them?

[Kengo] People have said that this government will be judged on what it does rather than what it says it is going to do. I believe the acts we are passing will reassure these people.

I will therefore give our partners all details concerning the measures the government has taken to clean up the economic, financial, and monetary environment to prove to them our good faith.

We will examine with them all the mechanisms that would make it possible to improve this environment so

that Zaire can again meet the conditions set out by the IMF and the World Bank to draw up an aid program. This is the only way our country can take off economically.

[Grogna] You may soon be excluded from the IMF. How can you hope to receive aid from organizations such as this?

[Kengo] The most beautiful woman in the world cannot give more than what she has. Today, we do not have sufficient resources to keep in line and reabsorb our arrears vis-a-vis these institutions. We will be negotiating the restructuring of our repayments. This is an essential condition if we are to have sustained relations.

In addition, we hope that our bilateral partners, and Belgium in particular, will agree to take over from us for a time to help us meet our obligations. We would thus increase our foreign debt with regard to these countries and we would then agree to pay them back as soon as possible while at the same time being able to benefit from aid from our multilateral partners.

[Grogna] Do you think that Belgium would be ready to come to your aid?

[Kengo] That will have to be the subject of discussions. If we show clearly our good faith then I do not believe that Belgium will be opposed to this. However, I cannot speak for the Belgian Government or Belgian public opinion.

[Grogna] You are planning to appoint new heads for state-owned companies. When do you have to present your candidates?

[Kengo] As things stand, the extraordinary session of the HCR-PT should be devoted to studying the minibudget for the last four months of the year.

It will be during the ordinary parliamentary session, due to start on the first Monday in October, that, according to the agreement protocol between the parties, we will start to discuss the restructuring of public companies, the Territorial Army, and the basic infrastructures. We are also planning to submit a number of draft laws including laws on the national election committee, the elections themselves, the autonomy of the central bank, decentralization, and even the Higher Defense Council. We will also talk about the budget plans for the next year.

[Grogna] Given some of the things it has said, it looks like the radical opposition wants to warn President Mobutu against your policies. How do you see these attacks?

[Kengo] As far as the fundamentalists in the opposition are concerned, only Tshisekedi is fit to govern the country. On that basis, they criticize everyone else.

When I was elected, everyone was talking about the violation of the constitutional act; when I formed the government, people said I would not be capable of

ruling; they said that President Mobutu would place obstacles in my path and that his political family would not want to follow me; and they said that my government would not be approved by the HCR-PT.

Today, everyone says that the Army does not obey me, and that I have no control over the public finances. They are finding faults and no qualities. They want to convene the Supreme Court of Justice, saying that my election was illegal. I say, let the court decide.

Even if you do not like someone, you have to have a minimum of objectivity. If you carry on like that, nobody will ever be able to govern the country and the transition period will never end.

[Grogna] Joseph Olengankey, a member of the radical opposition, has called for violence. What is your response to that attitude?

[Kengo] The government will assume its responsibilities. But will people then say that we have violated the freedom of the individual? That does not mean you can do anything you want, incite people to violence, and encourage the destruction of public property. Freedom has to be controlled. We need a responsible opposition, not a demagogic opposition calling for trouble. Is not verbal violence enough?

Should a government that was invested by the HCR-PT let itself go? What would your own country think of a government that could not provide security and did not protect foreign nationals?

[Grogna] Is your invitation to Etienne Tshisekedi's Union for Democracy and Social Progress party to enter your government still open?

[Kengo] Since 14 June, I have been in contact with a number of platforms in the radical opposition. Doubtless they will be agreed on broadening the government. Everyone is welcome to join my government.

[Grogna] Do you think you can carry on for a long time?

[Kengo] I hope so. In any case, I want to. The constitutional provisions are clear where the prerogatives of the prime minister and the government are concerned. I intend using these prerogatives.

I do not want this period of transition to drag on indefinitely. I will work in the spirit of nonconflict between the institutions and I will do what I can to ensure that Zaire recovers on both the economic and social levels. I will also strive to ensure that the elections pass off in the best possible conditions of transparency and democracy in the presence of international observers.

I would like the people going to vote to have some cause to smile. I hope nothing will stand in the way of us achieving these aims.

Deputy Minister, UN Official View Rwandan Border Issue

AB1209203694 Kinshasa Voix du Zaire in French 1800 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Text] Professor (Bayombo M'bokoyambo), deputy minister of interior; (Shamar Tri Gan), ambassador and UN secretary general's representative in Zaire; and (Pulami de Kabia), UN representative in Rwanda, this afternoon met at the Interior Ministry to try to find a solution to the border problems between Zaire and Rwanda. After the audience, the UN secretary general's representative said that he has brought a message from the UN secretary general aimed at finding a rapid solution to the border problems between Zaire and Rwanda. The presence of more than 1 million [Rwandan] refugees in Zaire is causing social and economic problems to which solutions must be found so as to restore an atmosphere of peace and stability to the region.

'Clarification' Disputes Report of Clashes in Goma

AB1109194994 Kinshasa Voix du Zaire in French 1800 GMT 11 Sep 94

[Text] Here is a clarification on the situation at Goma, chief town of the North Kivu Region: A deserting soldier of the Zairian Armed Forces was shot dead by security forces who gave him a chase. He had earlier resisted arrest. According to a reliable source, the deserter had killed a teacher in the town of Goma. The same source said the security forces were assisted by the local community, a version which contradicts certain reports that alleged there had been a clash between the population and the security forces.

Troops, Rwandan Refugees Clash at Kibumba Camp

AB1109124994 Paris AFP in English 1153 GMT 11 Sep 94

[Excerpts] Goma, Zaire, Sept 11 (AFP)—Zairean troops and Rwandan refugees have clashed at a refugee camp in eastern Zaire, humanitarian workers said here Sunday [11 September], prompting calls for aid workers to be sent to the camp only if necessary. The Zairean forces fired into a crowd of people who had surrounded them, aid workers said.

It was not clear if there had been any casualties in the shooting, but some reports spoke of several refugees being injured.

The unrest prompted the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to call on aid workers in the region to be prudent and only send in personnel where strictly necessary to the camp at Kibumba. The camp has become temporary home for some 200,000 refugees from the Rwandan fighting.

Aid worker sources said Zairean troops told them they intervened to protect the Zairean chauffeur of a vehicle which had come under attack from people in the camp.

Rwandan sources, who have complained in the past about racketeering by some soldiers, responded by saying the Zaireans wanted to loot the vehicle, most of whose passengers were refugees.

Following the incident, refugees set up roadblocks on the route linking Kibumba to Goma, to prevent non-governmental organisations leaving the camps at night for reasons of security to return to Goma.

Some of their vehicles were forced to spend Saturday night camped on a UN site to north of Kibumba.

A spokesman for the United Nations Aid Mission in Rwanda meanwhile said some 500 troops from the Rwandan Patriotic Army, the new government forces backed by the Tutsi-dominated Rwandan Patriotic

Front (RPF), had over the past week been deployed inside the former French-monitored zone in south-western Rwanda.

The RPF emerged victorious in the civil war, which erupted after Hutu President Juvenal Habyarimana died in a suspect aircrash on April 6. Up to one million Tutsis and moderate Hutus were killed in attacks blamed mainly on Habyaramina's militia groups.

Major Jean-Guy Plante said there were 210 soldiers from the RPA in the town of Gikongoro, 180 at Cyangugu and another 100-odd at Kibuye. [passage omitted]

The UN mission currently has some 2,000 of its own troops in the area.

Major Plante meanwhile revealed 15 of 32 prisoners held in Cyangugu by Ethiopian UN troops had escaped Saturday. The 32 are suspected of "various criminal activities." Plante added between 1,000 and 1,500 Rwandan refugees were now returning daily from Zaire to their own country.

Kenya**Czech Foreign Minister Arrives in Nairobi**

*EA1109190094 Nairobi KNA in English 1732 GMT
11 Sep 94*

[Excerpt] Nairobi, 11 Sep (KNA)—The Czech minister for foreign affairs, Mr. Josef Zieleniec, said on arrival in Nairobi today that Kenya was the most important country in black Africa and his government was determined to strengthen trade links between the two countries. Speaking at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, Mr. Zieleniec said his delegation included officials from the Czech Republic Ministry of Commerce and the Central Bank, who will be giving information on trade opportunities at a seminar organized by the Czech Republic in Nairobi, which he will officially open on Tuesday, 13 September at nine o'clock at Hotel Grand Regency. He said his visit was the first in black Africa since the split of Czechoslovakia into the Czech and Slovak Republics two years ago. [passage omitted]

Confers With Counterpart

*EA1209215894 Nairobi KNA in English 1400 GMT
12 Sep 94*

[Excerpt] Nairobi, 12 Sep (KNA)—The minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Mr. Kalonzo Musyoka, and his Czech counterpart Mr. Josef Zieleniec have concurred on the need to strengthen cooperation in trade and other bilateral relations for the mutual benefit of the two countries.

Mr. Musyoka commended Czechs for what he termed as a smooth transition and a clean split from the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. He said following the changes in state boundaries worldwide, maybe the United Nations should consider a re-write of the world map to reflect the changes as it (the map) now stands outdated.

The minister said Africa was at a crossroads as it grappled with liberalization, structural adjustment programs and democratization, processes that he noted have had adverse effects especially on the poor. [passage omitted]

Uganda**President Museveni Opens Trade Conference in India**

*EA1209164394 Kampala Radio Uganda Network in
English 1400 GMT 12 Sep 94*

[Excerpts] A conference on trade and investment opportunities in Uganda has opened in Bombay, India with a call to Indian businessmen and investors to come and invest in Uganda. The conference was this morning opened by President Yoweri Museveni who is in India after completing a five day official visit to Japan. The conference which is organized by the Uganda Investment Authority, Bank of Baroda, and the Federation of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, FICCI, is also being attended by prominent Ugandan businessmen and industrialists. It is taking place at the Taj Mahal hotel in Bombay.

In his address to the conference, President Museveni told Indian businessmen and industrialists that investing in Uganda will be beneficial and profitable for them because of the opportunities available in the agro-processing industry, given the abundant raw materials in Uganda available throughout the year. He enumerated other attractions in Uganda in which investors can be involved, such as fresh water resources, minerals, hydro-electric power generation, and tourism which can be profitably tapped by investors, all cemented by a liberal economic policy that allows business to operate conveniently. Speaking at the same occasion, the Indian union minister of state for commerce, civil supplies, consumer affairs and public distribution, Mr. Kamaluddin Ahmed expressed his government's support and readiness to work with Uganda in enhancing economic development. [passage omitted]

Later a Uganda-India joint business council agreement was signed by representatives of Uganda and the Indian business community to facilitate understanding and cooperation between the business people and investors of the two countries. [passage omitted]

This afternoon President Museveni held a meeting with the Indian minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr. Khursheed, with whom he discussed ways of strengthening economic and bilateral relations between Uganda and India.

Azapo Leader on ANC Failure To Deliver on Election Promises

*MB1209111694 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English
12 Sep 94 p 1*

[Report by Mokgadi Pela]

[Text] Blacks had to take control of their land and economy to gain true freedom, Azapo [Azanian People's Organization] leader Mr. Lybon Mabasa said in Bekkersdal yesterday. Addressing a rally to mark the 17th anniversary of Steve Biko's death in detention, Mabasa said: "We need land to improve the quality of life of our people. We do not need land to build shacks. We also reject the concept of black economic empowerment. Unlike our black brothers and sisters in the United States who needed to be affirmed, in this country we should take control of our economy."

Mabasa blasted the concept of powersharing, saying: "If you do that, you end up legalising white plunder of our land and economy. We must take over the whole land, including Sandton." He said the African National Congress was not able to deliver its election promises to the masses. "That's the problem of inheriting a system instead of dismantling it," Mabasa said.

He said Biko was the greatest "visionary" this country had ever produced. "When he wrote about fear being the main determinant in South African politics, he was only 22 years old. It's therefore unfair to compare him with lesser mortals, some of whom are in Parliament today. Biko belonged to a class of his own. He was in the same league as Amilcar Cabral of Guinea and Latin American revolutionary Che Guevara," he said.

In an apparent reference to the Reconstruction and Development Programme, Mabasa said: "Biko did not talk about development without helping to bring it about. He built schools and clinics along with his comrades through." [sentence as published] He said the great gift Biko had bequeathed to the black nation was mental liberation. "He made black people deal with their inferiority complex and challenged the arrogance of white people. He made us proud of ourselves," Mabasa said.

At the same service, Azapo deputy national organiser Mr. Monwabisi Duna called on the Government to re-open the Biko inquest and declare September 12 a paid public holiday. "If those who are in Parliament forget the sacrifices of people like Biko, we are duty-bound to remind them," he said.

Further on COSATU Congress; Urges Special Levy on Wealthy

*MB1209132394 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
12 Sep 94 p 3*

[Report by Jovial Rantao]

[Text] The Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU] has called for a special levy on incomes and

profits of the wealthy to ensure their contribution to the Reconstruction and Development Programme [RDP].

This is one of the resolutions adopted at the organisation's fifth congress which ended in Soweto on Saturday. "The implementation of the RDP should be the primary responsibility of all South Africans. The rich should contribute more than the poor," COSATU resolved.

In the same resolution, COSATU resolved to campaign for a voluntary contribution by workers in order for them to materially contribute to the RDP. This would be done through devoting output, profits and earnings on selected days to the RDP Fund.

Details of the proposal were still to be worked out, Zwelinzima Vavi, the re-elected deputy general-secretary of COSATU, told a press conference. Vavi said details on how the civics, students and business would contribute would also be worked out at a later stage.

COSATU further resolved it would intensify its campaign to educate its members and empower them with the means to defend the RDP through forums such as the "people's forum" and rallies. On participation in next year's local government elections, COSATU resolved it would earmark resources for a campaign in the elections. However, the union federation decided not to produce its own list of candidates as had been done for the April election, but rather to support lists from mass democratic movement formations. This was to avoid another leadership drain, as was the case after the general election.

COSATU also emerged from the congress opposed to full-time paid councillors, and said councillors should be paid allowances for attending meetings or duties performed outside of normal working hours. It also resolved to campaign to ensure that the Government of National Unity and the Constituent Assembly would prevent inclusion of anti-labour clauses in the new constitution and Bill of Rights.

The federation also resolved to develop proper internal financial management and control systems, including the employment of skilled people in the finance department, to prevent abuse and waste of resources. It further intended to review its financial planning to reduce dependence on foreign finding. On the international front, COSATU is to call on the Government to establish formal diplomatic ties with Cuba, and announced it would take steps to ensure that the American blockade of Cuba was lifted.

Portuguese Banks Sign Credit Agreement With National Banks

*MB1209183694 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1810
GMT 12 Sep 94*

[Excerpt] Johannesburg Sept 12 SAPA—Portugal on Monday [12 September] joined the list of foreign countries interested in trade with South Africa with the signing of a credit line agreement between leading Portuguese and South African commercial banks.

Representatives of a 30-member Portuguese business delegation outlined possibilities for bilateral economic relations during a seminar with their South African business counterparts.

The credit line agreement, intended to promote the export of Portuguese goods to South Africa, amounts to U.S. \$75 million.

The South African signatures of the credit conventions consisted of ABSA [Amalgamated Banks of South Africa], the Bank of Lisbon International, First National Bank, Nedbank, and Standard Bank.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Banco Nacional Ultramarino general manager Iglesias Tomaz said the credit lines would be increased if fully used. He said the credit lines would enable South African banks to finance customers wishing to import Portuguese goods and would therefore significantly increase the flow of trade between the two countries.

Addressing delegates at the trade seminar, Portuguese Trade and Tourism Department (ICEP) Vice-President Mr. Diogo Tavares said Portugal had embarked on a major drive to promote outward investment and was particularly interested in the emerging southern African market. [passage omitted]

South African Press Review for 13 Sep

MB1309115094

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

ANC 'Intolerance'—"The haste with which the ANC is planning to remove busts, statues and paintings suggests an intolerance that bodes ill for good race relations at a time when President Mandela has embarked on a policy of reconciliation and nation building," points out the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 12 September. The editorial asks whether the Government of National Unity is perhaps "a mere face-saving device, a government in which the most powerful party has the power and the others help to project a false sense of unity"? "The diversity of any country's past must be reflected in things that are precious even if only to one section and not another. Above all, the ANC should not act hastily and stir up ill feelings at a time when the country is relatively peaceful and President Mandela has cast a magic spell of tolerance and goodwill."

THE STAR

Call for Tough Immigration Policy—"Wonderful though it would be to be able to accommodate all the new immigrants, the reality is that we cannot," declares a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 13 September. "As President Mandela put it at the COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] congress last week, we should think more seriously about the growing army of the unemployed here. For as long as they remain jobless, so, too, will the crime rate stay high.

And yet we should not be xenophobic." What is needed is "a tough but impartial immigration policy which will allow in only those job-seekers with skills in short supply here. We must now say, in friendly but firm fashion, that charity begins at home."

Country Must Resist Calls for Military Help—Jean-Jacques Cornish writes in an article on the same page that "pressure continues on South Africa to get involved in peacekeeping operations in Africa." But President Mandela has "so far resisted these calls." "Peace-loving countries that deplored apartheid South Africa's militarism now urge the new, democratic government to use that muscle." Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo, now on his travels that will eventually take him to the United Nations General Assembly in New York later this month, "is bound to experience this pressure from the most unlikely quarters. He must continue to resist." South Africa has a vested interest in Africa but "we will not contribute to this by being dragged into foreign adventures. The single greatest achievement of the Government of National Unity is its ultimate formation by political rather than military efforts. That is our salvation."

BUSINESS DAY

Government Likely To Honor Fiscal Promises—"In recent weeks the impression has grown that markets have been premature or too hasty in their judgment of the new government," states Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 13 September in a page 6 editorial. "There is an insistency running through pronouncements from the Ministers and deputies charged with managing the economy that would appear to underscore government's determination to operate within budgetary constraints." "Scepticism has helped lift market-determined interest rates and this, in turn, threatens the government's spending plans if government debt incurs higher interest rates. The Cabinet realises this and will continue to emphasise its fiscal bona fides. Markets, we would suggest, should take the view that this government will honour its fiscal promises."

CITY PRESS

Mandela on Media Partnership With Government—Khulu Sibiya writes in his "My Way" column on page 16 of Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English on 11 September that like all of us, President Mandela "he too can err—as was the case this week when he addressed the Conference of Editors in Cape Town on the possible relationship between government and the media. As usual, the carefully worded opening of Mandela's speech was like sweet music in our ears—until, of course, the punch line came...partnership with government." Sibiya notes that "Never before have I heard of a partnership between government and the media—unless of course the media are owned and controlled by government, which means acting as the mouthpiece of the government. Is this what Mandela wants?" "The media can either be gagged, coerced—or let free, period."

Angola

FLEC Threatens To Set Fire to Oil Companies in Cabinda

*MB1309070894 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo
Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 13 Sep 94*

[Text] The troops of the communist regime led by Eduardo dos Santos continue to commit barbarous acts against the civilian population in many parts of the country. Cabinda Province is no exception. (Costa Sachicombo), the Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel, Vorgan, correspondent in the oil-rich enclave, reported yesterday that the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, FAPLA, troops—on orders from their leaders in Luanda's Futungo de Belas Palace—have been stealing the people's possessions in Belize District and other communes nearby. Gradually, the people have been leaving the country as a result of those inhuman acts by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party, MPLA-PT, government.

It is worth noting that such satanic operations against Angolan people have been taking place at a time when James Jonah—the latest UN envoy to come to Angola to learn about its political and military situation, humanitarian aid-related issues, and the Lusaka peace talks—is still visiting this country.

Meanwhile, the Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave-Cabinda Armed Forces, FLEC-FAC, the most powerful military faction seeking independence for Cabinda, yesterday threatened to set alight the oil companies operating in the Cabinda Enclave. That threat was made by Manuel N'Zita, a senior FLEC-FAC official, in the Republic of Congo. N'Zita indicated that his organization would only back down on its decision if the five oil companies [not further identified] stop their support for the Luanda regime.

This is the first time that FLEC-FAC has made such a threat and it could be seen as an indication that the movement will be adopting a new military stance in the wake of the August massacre, which is reported to have caused more than 700 civilian deaths in the northern part of the Cabinda Enclave.

Government, UNITA Differences on Unavem Troop Numbers

*MB1209124094 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in
Portuguese 1200 GMT 12 Sep 94*

[Text] In Lusaka, the negotiators continue discussing the specific principles that will govern the new mandate of the UN Angola Verification Mission, Unavem. That is one issue that has dragged for longer than one week and looks likely to take up quite a few more days. The problem is that yet another disagreement surfaced today and this time it concerns the number of Unavem men. The National Union for the Total Independence of

Angola [UNITA] wants 15,000 blue helmets. The government feels 15,000 is excessive, adding 7,000 will be enough. Alves Antonio, our correspondent in Lusaka, reports on that disagreement which surfaced when the talks resumed this morning:

The government and UNITA did in fact resume their peace talks this morning. At a bilateral meeting, the negotiators continue discussing issues pertaining to specific principles of the new Unavem-3 mandate. Representatives from the two sides are scheduled to hold another direct meeting this afternoon. UNITA believes that there should be 15,000 men in Unavem and that they should have the power to intervene. The government disagrees and proposes 7,000 men instead.

Meanwhile, political analysts and diplomats here in Lusaka continue to say that peace is within the grasp of the Angolan people, adding Angolans should take advantage of the opportunity being afforded them in the Zambian capital to settle their differences peacefully. Diplomats have also been encouraging all sides participating in the Angolan peace process to show greater commitment so there can be successful conclusion to the talks. However, diplomats have called on UNITA to maintain a dignified stance and to facilitate the course of negotiation.

UN Envoy Optimistic About Lusaka Talks

*MB1009203594 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in
Portuguese 1900 GMT 10 Sep 94*

[Report by correspondent Alves Antonio from Lusaka]

[Text] UN envoy James Jonah said in Lusaka that one can now see light at the end of the tunnel. James Jonah, who arrived in the Zambian capital recently to evaluate the running of the talks between the government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], assured the government delegation that one can now see light at the end of the tunnel. The chief government negotiator, Dr. Faustino Muteka, said on the issue:

[Begin recording] [Muteka] At least Mr. Jonah, in his assessment of the meeting we held for about one hour, said the report we issued was positive and that through what he heard one can already see light at the end of the tunnel.

[Unidentified reporter] Does it mean peace will be achieved soon?

[Muteka] That is not the case, since we still have to conclude some final issues of the process that has been going on for almost 10 months in Lusaka. [end recording]

However, there are still obstacles that need to be overcome, which is why the analysts say people should not be

too optimistic. We asked the government's chief negotiator about UNITA's response to the mediators' proposal on the participation of Jonas Savimbi's movement in the government.

[Begin recording] [Muteka] [words indistinct] response, which we sent to our leadership for assessment.

[Reporter] Is it a positive response?

[Muteka] Well, I do not want to discuss this issue deeply. As you know, the government already agreed to the mediators' proposals long ago, and it was now UNITA's turn to respond them. So UNITA's response was handed over to the mediators and not the government. [end recording]

Zambian President Frederick Chiluba on 9 September received in audience former UN Undersecretary General James Jonah, with whom he discussed the Angolan conflict at length. Sources close to the mediators told Radio Nacional de Angola that the meeting was held in a cordial atmosphere, and the two expressed satisfaction with the progress made so far in the government-UNITA talks, recognizing, however, the need to speed up the process, as well as to remove barriers that hinder the conclusion of the negotiations. This morning, James Jonah received Edmund DeJarnette, Yuriy Kapralov, and Rocha Paris, the troika of observer representatives from the United States, Russia, and Portugal, who briefed him on the talks between the government and UNITA teams. The UN envoy is scheduled to return to Luanda tomorrow to continue talks with Angolan authorities.

Jonah, UNITA Accept Proposals

MB0909150794 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 9 Sep 94

[Text] UN envoy James Jonah is in Lusaka, Zambia, and today he held a meeting with Alioune Blondin Beye, special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola, to examine other obstacles in the negotiating process. More details from Alves Antonio.

UN envoy James Jonah will be received in audience by President Frederick Chiluba here in Lusaka this afternoon. Meanwhile, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] has finally replied positively to the mediators' proposals on its participation in the government in Angola. All the same, the obstacles still hindering the conclusion of the Angolan peace process were examined in detail by UN envoy James Jonah during a closed-door meeting he held with mediator Alioune Blondin Beye. The meeting was attended by some of the principal advisers from both sides.

Sources close to the mediators revealed that James Jonah now has an idea of the present state of the talks between the government and UNITA. Former UN assistant Secretary James Jonah is expected to meet with the principal protagonists of this negotiating process this

afternoon. The UN envoy, who has been here in Lusaka since yesterday, met with the diplomatic corps accredited to Zambia this morning. He took the opportunity to examine the Angolan situation.

In about three hours Zambian head of state Frederick Chiluba will receive in audience UN envoy James Jonah who will hold meetings with members of the troika of observers—United States, Portugal, and Russia—tomorrow.

Meanwhile, the government and UNITA negotiating teams continue discussions on specific principles of the new UN Angola Verification Mission [Unavem]-3 mandate. An official source told the press here in Lusaka that UNITA has finally replied positively to the mediators' proposal on its participation in the country's government. According to the source, UNITA does not raise any objection, even with regard to the question of Huambo. The source also said that the government has already been notified on the issue.

Government, UNITA Agree

MB1209194794 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Report by correspondent Alves Antonio in Lusaka]

[Text] The government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] have taken yet another significant step in their discussions about the new UNAVEM [UN Angola Verification Mission] mandate. A source close to the talks told us that to all intents and purposes the negotiators have agreed on the issues raised by the mediator. Tomorrow the negotiators will review the issues under discussion and approve the principles governing UNAVEM-3. Afterward, the negotiators will deal with the role to be played by the observers and the organization that will replace the Joint Political and Military Commission, CCPM.

Lesotho

No Agreement Signed 'Yet' by King, Deposed Prime Minister

MB1209113994 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1045 GMT 12 Sep 94

[From the "Newsbrief" program]

[Text] Into Lesotho where King Letsie III was due to sign an agreement with the country's deposed Prime Minister Ntsu Mokhehle this morning, whereby the country's democratically elected government would be reinstated. Our colleague Phillip van der Walt is in Maseru and we asked him what the latest was on the Lesotho crisis.

[Begin recording] [Van Der Walt] It was to have been signed earlier this morning but I'm afraid that it has not been done yet. What happened is later on this morning the Provisional Council of Ministers, which is the

council of ministers that was appointed by King Letsie after he disbanded the previous government of Dr. Mokhehle, this Council of Ministers issued a report reading that they do appreciate the concern of the presidents of South Africa, Botswana, and Zimbabwe over the country's constitutional crisis but this agreement that was drawn up with their aid is not a substitute for a negotiated internal settlement. They broadcasted over the radio, over the Lesotho radio this morning, that they advised the king not to sign the agreement at this stage because it would be premature and King Letsie should refrain from such signatures as arranged by the presidents until he has completed consultations with Dr. Mokhehle and where necessary, also with the nation.

They added that they've noted the importance of keeping the presidents involved in these matters and to assist towards the achievement of internal resolution. What's happened is that these appointed ministers, mainly from the previous government who lost the general election, seem to want to stay in power. They are in power now, they've been put there by the king and it appears as if they would like to stay in power and this little cabinet, one could maybe call it a mock cabinet because it's not democratically elected, this little cabinet is now exercising power on the king who is a young man and they no doubt have a real big influence on the king's decision making, and therefore, I personally would wonder whether this agreement will be signed today and whether the Council of Ministers won't win the fight.

[SABC announcer Keith Campbell] Have you been able to gather any reaction from the people or from opposition figures to this announcement?

[Van der Walt] Yes, there is as one moves about the town and one listens to what the people say, you realize that the country had a general election in 254 constituencies and the Basotholand Congress Party, the BCP, won all of those seats, so clearly 80-90 percent of the people are BCP supporters, whereas there is strong indications that the present provisional council is BNP [Basotholand National Party], I mean most of those ministers, if not all of them, come from the previous Basotholand National Party government and the BCP supporters do not want the king to disband the elected BCP government. They do not want the king to be involved in it. They do not want the Basotholand National Party ministers that the king has appointed, and they are clearly getting irritated and very concerned about what is happening politically in the country and a lot of the people are saying that maybe—maybe a real good, in their own words, a real good civil war will be the only solution to this problem. So the people are not happy. [end recording]

King Refuses to Sign Agreement

*MB1309113894 Johannesburg Radio South Africa
Network in English 1100 GMT 13 Sep 94*

[Text] An urgent diplomatic note is reported to have been sent from Maseru to President Nelson Mandela

after King Letsie refused to sign an agreement this morning paving the way for the reinstatement of the dismissed government of Prime Minister Ntsu Mokhehle. A reply from Mr. Mandela is awaited before talks attended by mediators from South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Botswana, will be resumed.

Meanwhile, Dr. Mokhehle's Basotholand Congress Party, the BCP, has called for sanctions against the country. A BCP spokesman said the party would also organize strikes. The interim ruling council appointed by the king said it would be premature to agree to a pact for the restoration of the government as the monarch should first consult the nation.

Official Explains Delay

*MB1309070694 Johannesburg Radio South Africa
Network in English 0610 GMT 13 Sep 94*

[From the "Radio Today" program]

[Text] The crisis in Lesotho has still not been resolved. An agreement which would have given power back to the deposed prime minister of Lesotho Ntsu Mokhehle had not been signed by late last night, but there are hopes that it will be signed in the course of today. However, last night Radio Today asked the South African Acting Director General of Foreign Affairs Rusty Evans why the agreement had not been signed.

[Begin recording] [Evans] For a number of reasons and there are a number of steps that need to be taken, after all our task has been to assist the various parties here in Lesotho, to prepare the modalities for the restoration of the government for the reinstallation of the government, and those modalities have taken a little longer than expected, for various reasons but again I say as I've said before, there is absolutely no reason to question that ... that in fact in every likelihood, and I hesitate to say that, but we are convinced this evening that in every likelihood this will probably happen during the course of tomorrow.

[SABC Reporter Phillip van der Walt] What does the agreement stipulate?

[Evans] There are basically two steps that need to be taken. The one relates to rectifying the constitutional ... [changes thought] the unconstitutional situation that was created as a result of an order that was issued by the king on the 17 August. The government has to be restored. It can only take place as a result of an order that will be issued by the king. Those documents have been prepared. We have been informed by the attorney general this evening that in fact they are ready. Secondly, there is a document of understanding which entails a number of guarantees that the Frontline State presidents—that the neighboring states have offered to undertake to ensure that the process relating to the return to constitutionality in Lesotho takes place in such a manner that all the parties are satisfied. Those guarantees, that document

has been ready for some time now and it hasn't really changed in the last day or two, but it is at this stage now completely finalized.

[Van der Walt] Are we on the threshold of peace, prosperity, stability in Lesotho?

[Evans] I can't say that. It is our task actually, simply to facilitate the return to a normal constitutional order in Lesotho, and I mean this was a constitutional crisis that had to be addressed, and that is all really that we can hope to achieve. The stability, political stability in Lesotho is of course dependent on the will of the various political parties and others in Lesotho to in fact enter into the spirit of reconciliation—that the various discussions that we have had and the documentation that we have prepared, has tried to embody. [end recording]

'Urgent' Diplomatic Note Reportedly Sent to Mandela

MB1309111294 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1055 GMT 13 Sep 94

[From the "Newsbrief" program]

[Text] The agreement between King Letsie and deposed Prime Minister Ntsu Mokhehle, whereby the country's democratically elected government would be reinstated, has still not been signed. Phillip van der Walt reports from Maseru.

Yesterday's hectic negotiations which lasted until after nine last night made way for a tense wait and see situation this morning. As far as could be established no more meetings were held this morning. Unconfirmed rumors have it that an urgent diplomatic note was sent to President Nelson Mandela and that everybody is waiting for a reply thereto. The agreement will have to be reached and signed soon because COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] has threatened to stop all exports to the mountain kingdom should the democratically elected BCP [Basotholand Congress Party] government of Dr. Mokhehle not be returned to power soon. Lesotho imports nearly all of its consumer goods from South Africa.

King Expected to Issue Decree Today Reinstating Government

MB1309062894 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0600 GMT 13 Sep 94

[Text] King Letsie III of Lesotho is expected to issue a decree in Maseru today reinstating the government of Dr. Ntsu Mokhehle. The decree will guarantee the protection of all the interests of all political parties. An agreement to reinstate the deposed government was not signed at a meeting between the king and Dr. Mokhehle yesterday, apparently because of opposition from the interim Council of Ministers. The South African acting director general of foreign affairs, Mr. Rusty Evans, and

diplomats from Botswana and Zimbabwe, negotiated with Dr. Mokhehle and King Letsie until late last night.

King, Deposed Prime Minister Discuss Political Crisis

MB1209122994 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1117 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Text] Maseru Sept 12 SAPA—Lesotho's King Letsie III and deposed Prime Minister Dr. Ntsu Mokhehle on Monday [12 September] met for an hour at the royal palace in Maseru to discuss the country's political crisis. Ousted minister of foreign affairs Molapo Qhobela told newsmen after the talks. "No comment at this stage."

Dr. Mokhehle was accompanied to the meeting by Mr. Qhobela and three other cabinet ministers ousted by the king three weeks ago.

Earlier reports said the king and Dr. Mokhehle were to sign an agreement on Monday to resolve the dispute.

However, the king's provisional council of ministers later said it had advised the king not to sign any agreement until after the talks with Dr. Mokhehle had been concluded.

Mozambique

Police Detain FPLM Major for Retaining Weapons

MB1009143094 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 9 Sep 94

[Excerpts] The Republic of Mozambique Police, PRM, have detained Roberto Miguel Matsinha, a major of the now-defunct Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique, FPLM, in Maputo on charges of being in possession of three firearms: one Makarov pistol, one semiautomatic weapon, and one .22 caliber weapon. Maj. Roberto Matsinha also had lent another Makarov pistol to Natalino Alberto, an unemployed civilian who also has been detained. Police said the two men were detained after people reported that Maj. Roberto Matsinha intended to break into premises used by a party to steal money given by the international community. Maj. Matsinha denied that charge though. Speaking to Radio Mozambique journalist Antonio Jamal, Maj. Matsinha said he had served in the National Militia Command and headed the battalion that guarded Pequenos Libombos Dam. Maj. Matsinha still is waiting to be demobilized. He alleged that the weapons in his possession had been given him for his previous duties. [passage omitted]

Maj. Matsinha explained why he had hung on to his weapons, even though police had called on people to voluntarily hand them in:

[Begin recording] [Matsinha] Obviously, I planned to return the weapons, but only after elections, because we are living in rather uncertain times. That is why I kept the weapons voluntarily.

[Jamal] Is this a time of uncertainty?

[Matsinha] I say uncertainty because I do not know whether there will be war again.

[Jamal] Pardon me, major, but it is not up to you to take such an initiative. You are a major, but there must have been higher structures telling you to keep the weapons at home.

[Matsinha] No. No one said anything like that.

[Jamal] You decided to keep the weapons at hand. If there was war again, would you have used them?

[Matsinha] Well, then I would have joined the others.

[Jamal] What others are you talking about?

[Matsinha] There could possibly appear (?other men) [words indistinct] this situation we are experiencing in Mozambique. [end recording]

Official: Rapid Intervention Police To Keep Weapons

MB1209151594 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Text] Labor Minister Teodato Hunguana, the number two man in the Mozambican Government team to the Supervision and Control Commission, CSC, told Radio Mozambique today there was no question of disarming the Rapid Intervention Police, PIR, as demanded by the Mozambique National Resistance, Renamo.

The labor minister described as both strange and absurd that such a demand should be made at a time when society is calling for police to be better equipped. Minister Hunguana noted that various members of society had spoken along the same lines about police on Radio Mozambique's "Morning Wave" program last week.

Labor Minister Hunguana also recalled that the latest UN Security Council resolution recommended that police be better equipped. He said that in view of the wave of illegal mutinies and the violence that has arisen from them, it is strange that anyone should call for police to be disarmed, unless those people want even more disorder in the country. Labor Minister Hunguana concluded by saying such illegal demands fall outside the scope of the General Peace Accord.

Dhlakama Denies Making Promises to Soldiers During War

MB0909200694 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 9 Sep 94

[Text] Afonso Dhlakama, Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader, has said he did not promise special treatment or improved living conditions to Renamo soldiers during the war. Speaking to a Radio Mozambique reporter, the Renamo leader said the only promise which had been made was [words indistinct]

Radio Mozambique reported earlier today that former Renamo soldiers mutinied in [name indistinct] town, in Sofala Province, yesterday. Those forces demanded special treatment and improved living conditions in accordance with promises allegedly made by their leader during the war.

Swaziland

King Discusses Population Control, Other Topics

MB1209155694 Mbabane Swazi Television in siSwati 1815 GMT 9 Sep 94

[Address by King Mswati III at the official opening of the Swazi American PHI seeds processing plant at Luyengo on 9 September—recorded]

[Text] [Recorded in progress]...that it was said at the meeting, that for each country in Africa—setting aside the other countries represented at the meeting—it is important to have industries such as this, because such industries auger well for a bright future. At the gathering, I spoke about this industry we are opening here today—to indicate that even as we attended the meeting—there are already many things we have begun like this one. I added that things like this need to be encouraged in many areas of the country.

As the farmer who spoke said, they are engaged in some of these projects but need to undertake long and costly trips to cart their goods. He expressed the wish for some of these industries to come closer to home to make life easier. I agree with him, that there is a need for closer markets, area by area, for maize and other agricultural produce, as this would halt the use of scarce finance on transportation and other costs that cause financial hardships to the farmer. If the market is closer, there would be no problem. Besides, you may leave home on the long haul to market and be waylaid by those who know you have money on you. They lie in wait for you along the way, and the little money you have gotten from sales does not reach home. This farmer's comments need to be taken seriously. It is just as well that a committee has been formed that will hold consultations in the various areas. In its report it will then perhaps also include advice on how projects can start off and run successfully.

On the question of food—since we are here to view exhibited produce—as others who have spoken before have noted, it appears that the main problem here is the high population growth experienced around the world. If food production does not increase with the population, many problems arise. At the meeting in Egypt where the prime minister represented the country, he informed me that many delegates spoke strongly about the need for the use of the condom to curb population growth because food is in short supply. It is imperative that we take this advice voiced at the meeting, more especially because of rampant diseases connected with sexual activity. The use of the condom would ensure that the spread of disease is curbed. The condom, therefore, would not only help cut

down on the number of children born but also protect one from disease. So we must look into this matter seriously for the sake of the population.

I recall seeing a man on TV, some years ago when there was a serious drought—this man was shown surrounded by lots of children. I recall seeing him and wondering what he was going to do with all these children. He was lamenting, saying: I don't know what I am on this earth for any more; I have all these children and can't fend for them. He added: I don't know what I would do without my wife; she is the one who goes in search of food to feed us. I sat there thinking, how can this man speak like this? He must have been far gone indeed to expose himself like this, begging for help and looking to the wife for sustenance. The wife might just as well wear the pants and give the dress over to him, seeing that there was a serious case of role reversal. I realized that it would be good to heed the advice, because if we are going to have a situation where fathers are going to appear before the nation and confess this kind of helplessness and yet still

be fathering more children, then children are going to face much hardship. As the man in the house, you should have only as many children as you will be able to sustain and educate fully. Such issues are all part of development and should be discussed around the country.

We thank all those who have contributed to setting up this industry, as this is not just a government venture alone but includes others as well. There is a need for more joint ventures of this nature between Swazis and outside companies. We are expecting many more. We need to put more emphasis on agricultural activity and be self-sufficient in food. Presently, there are many foods we do not produce ourselves, but this need not be the case. This kind of industry will encourage many of us to till the ground and make the country self-sufficient in food. This is all, countrymen. I felt it would not be right to speak in English alone, so that even our grandmothers and grandfathers at home would know for themselves what I said at this opening. I thank you all.

Benin

Government, National Assembly Budget Talks Fail

AB1109131394 Paris AFP in French 2017 GMT 9 Sep 94

[Text] Porto-Novo (Benin), 9 Sep (AFP)—The negotiations between the Beninese Government and the National Assembly to find a "consensus" solution to their one-month long dispute over this year's budget ended in failure on 8 September, it was learned today in Porto-Novo.

A member of the joint committee set up at the start of the talks in August told AFP that the government was still opposed to the national budget adopted at the end of July by the parliamentarians, the majority of whom are hostile to Beninese President Nicéphore Soglo.

A government member said he was of the view that negotiations could resume "at any time."

The budget adopted by the National Assembly notably provided for a 15- to 25-percent increase in salaries and student scholarships. The Beninese president deemed it incompatible with the economic reform policy he intended to pursue.

To oppose it, he decided to rule by decrees but the Constitutional Court annulled the procedure at the instance of the National Assembly. The parliamentarians have again asked him to execute the budget in the form they adopted.

Guinea

Interior Minister: Army Disrupted Opposition Meetings

AB1109125794 Paris AFP in English 1236 GMT 11 Sep 94

[Text] Conakry, Sept 11 (AFP)—The Guinean minister of the interior, Alseny Rene Gomez, said Sunday [11 September] that the Army had broken up public meetings organized by the opposition Guinean Peoples' Rally (RPG) at the end of last month.

Speaking on Guinea radio and breaking a two-week government silence on the affair, Gomez categorically denied that there had been any attempts on the life of RPG leader Alpha Conde. "This rumour currently doing the rounds in Conakry is totally untrue," he said and accused Conde of breaking the law by organizing the public meetings and making "warmongering" speeches.

Security forces, on order of the local authorities, used tear gas and fired into the air at a meeting organized at the end of August in Kerouane, 700 kilometres (434 miles) east of Conakry, he said.

Following these incidents, in which there were no victims, Conde's supporters published an open letter in Conakry saying that local authorities had tried to assassinate their leader, he said.

The references to the events were the first occasion on which the government has admitted the clashes between soldiers and its opponents.

Liberia

ULIMO Factions Discuss Reunification at Peace Talks

AB1009193194 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 1800 GMT 10 Sep 94

[Excerpts] The Central Technical Committee of the Liberian peace talks at Akosombo in Ghana has drawn an agenda. [passage omitted] Our correspondent adds that the delegates have been holding informal meetings so that representatives of the two ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] factions today discussed how to reunite.

Says Koromah Faction Controls Gbarnga

AB1209184994 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 12 Sep 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Just to add more confusion to the confusion in Liberia at the moment, we got a call tonight from Khalif Dumbuya, a member of the Alhaji Koromah faction of ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia]. He said he's just been in Gbarnga and that it's his men who've been doing the fighting. He declares that they are now in control of the town. On the line, Robin White asked Mr. Dumbuya how many men they had in Gbarnga.

[Begin recording] [Dumbuya] Well, Robin for security reasons I wouldn't tell you that, but I tell you that it's under complete, I mean, complete control. We'd like to see anybody coming in there—because we have enough men and enough weapons to keep that place safe for any other time to come. We wouldn't want to ask anybody to make the mistake to go around that area because it's under complete control with enough men and enough weaponry to keep the area safe.

[White] So, if Taylor were to try and go back to Gbarnga what would happen?

[Dumbuya] Well, I can tell you Taylor is never going to come back to Gbarnga. He's never going to try to come to Gbarnga, never. That is just some jargon, some slogan that he wants to put to the world. I know Mr. Taylor will never come back there. If he comes back there we will get him.

[White] I mean, how can we believe you?

[Dumbuya] Then you can send your reporters now. Just fly them onto our territory and we will lead them to Gbarnga.

[White] Have you been in Gbarnga yourself?

[Dumbuya] I just left Gbarnga.

[White] And where are you calling from now?

[Dumbuya] No, it's not important Robin, we are in full control.

[White] Now the reports we are getting from Monrovia say that there is still fighting going on for Gbarnga, that the battle continues.

[Dumbuya] Well, let the reporters go there and see it, let the reporters go and see it. Very soon we'll keep the radio on. We will start speaking to you from the radio there.

[White] Mr. Dumbuya, how do you explain your capturing Gbarnga and your leader, Alhaji Koromah, sitting down in Akosombo in Ghana and, you know, hugging, shaking hands with Charles Taylor and making an agreement with him?

[Dumbuya] Yes, we didn't intend to go to Gbarnga just because we've heard our leader is discussing peace and, in fact, pursuing the peace process, but we have been provoked. They are going to create havoc for the civilians in our area. So, we had to pursue them over there and to make sure that there is no more problem with the civilians. That's why we are there, we didn't go there in violation of what our leader is trying to range in Ghana.

[White] Has Mr. Koromah told you to go and take Gbarnga?

[Dumbuya] No, he didn't tell us to go and take Gbarnga. I know that our leader is always pleased with the fact that we go after our enemies. [end recording]

Taylor Forces 'Losing Control' of Gbarnga Headquarters

AB1009124494 Paris AFP in English 1222 GMT 10 Sep 94

[By Cris McCall]

[Text] Monrovia, Sept 10 (AFP)—A breakaway faction opposed to Liberian rebel leader Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia was said Saturday [10 Saturday] to be poised to seize control of the warlord's headquarter town of Gbarnga, reliable sources here told AFP.

Deputy commander of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL), General Haq Azziz, said that heavy fighting between rival groups within the NPFL had been carrying on for several days in Gbarnga, 160 km (100 miles) north-east of Monrovia, but it appeared "as if some other people are in control." The situation remained unclear for the moment, Azziz

added. However reports also suggested that Taylor loyalists still controlled at least part of the town.

A factional radio station operated from the town has not been heard since Wednesday.

Although the bulk of the shooting is believed to be in-fighting within the NPFL, there have also been reports of raids by the Mandingo faction of the United Liberation Movement (ULIMO). ULIMO forces loyal to the movement's nominal leader Alhaji Kromah have been fighting the NPFL north-west of Gbarnga near the Guinea border for several weeks.

A UNOMIL contingent on the outskirts of Gbarnga is staying put, UN sources indicated, although support staff have left the town.

Meanwhile, over 2,000 people have taken refuge at a hospital at Phebe, 10 kilometres (6 miles) south of the town.

Although a group of Taylor-appointed guards nicknamed the "Wild Geese" were still patrolling the hospital grounds, groups of civilians in the area were said to be trying to organise their own defence against freelance gangs of gunmen.

Deteriorating conditions in other towns in the area, particularly Ganta on the Guinea border, 60 km (35 miles) north-east of Gbarnga, are also causing concern in Monrovia.

Most aid agencies have scaled down their operations in the Gbarnga area in recent weeks following a series of seizures of aid vehicles.

There was no clear indication as to whether Taylor, who is currently in Accra for an inter-factional meeting with Kromah and other warlords, will return to Liberia.

In July three NPFL-nominated ministers in the transitional government, formerly close Taylor allies, called for him to be "killed like a snake" as the "obstacle" to peace in Liberia.

This was followed by the death of one of Taylor's generals, Nixon Gaye, while under interrogation for organising an alleged "mutiny."

Taylor has led the NPFL since the start of the war in December 1989, establishing Gbarnga as his stronghold from which he organised his own "government" with himself as self-declared "president" of Liberia.

'Fierce Battle' Reported at Taylor's NPFL Headquarters

AB1109171494 Paris AFP in English 1647 GMT 11 Sep 94

[Text] Monrovia, Sept 11 (AFP)—A "fierce battle" raged Sunday [11 September] in northeast Liberia between supporters and adversaries of Charles Taylor, leader of

the National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL], for control of the movement's headquarters, informed sources said.

The sources, who requested anonymity, said forces loyal to Taylor were still managing to hold out at the NPFL stronghold of Gbarnga against an assault by dissidents from within their own movement and forces from one of the NPFL's rivals, the United Liberation Movement (ULIMO). ULIMO is itself divided into two rival Krahn and Mandingo branches.

The sources reported "heavy gunfire" in Gbarnga, 160 km (100 miles) northeast of Monrovia, but were unable to give details of casualties. Most civilians were believed to have fled the area.

NPFL-run radio, which normally broadcasts from the town, went off the air on Wednesday.

Taylor himself was still in Ghana Sunday at multi-party talks aimed at thrashing out a new 10-point peace agreement to put an end to almost five years of civil war in Liberia. Late Saturday, he had said his forces had managed to repel the dissident revolt at Gbarnga.

According to reports reaching AFP, Gbarnga forces loyal to Taylor have been placed under the command of his head of security, General Cassius Jacobs.

That group is faced by an unknown number of men led by General Samuel Varney. Varney was formerly the right-hand man of Prince Johnson, a lieutenant of Taylor when the conflict broke out in December 1989. Six months later, Johnson left to form the dissident Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia.

When the NPFL launched an assault on Monrovia, Johnson sought protection from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), which sent peacekeeping troops to the war-torn country in August 1990. He then left for Lagos, where he is believed still to be based, while his supporters rejoined the NPFL.

Taylor and Liberia's other warring faction chiefs were meanwhile still aboard a yacht in Ghana Sunday hoping to have a peace accord ready for Tuesday, a Ghanaian source said.

The source said a draft accord provided for the revision of the mandate, composition, mode of appointment and the functioning of a transitional presidency, government and parliament set up in Monrovia in March last year under the 1993 Cotonou agreement.

That accord, which sought to end the fighting which has already cost 150,000 lives, has so far remained a virtual dead letter.

Taylor To Stay for Peace Talks

*AE1009191694 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 10 Sep 94*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Well, one man who must be concerned about the reports of intensified fighting around Gbarnga is Charles Taylor himself. He is in Akosombo in Ghana discussing peace with Alhaji Koromah of ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] and General Hezekiah Bowen of the Armed Forces of Liberia. So, would the change in military situation persuade Charles Taylor to return to Gbarnga immediately? On the line to Akosombo, Peter van Wilson asked him if he was staying or going.

[Begin recording] [Taylor] If Gbarnga has fallen, I will lift it up. I am telling you that my officers are on the ground in Gbarnga, and I will not derail this conference by leaving because I know I believe what they have said, and I will be in Gbarnga immediately following this conference after we have brought peace to our people, and I will speak to you from the ground in Gbarnga when I get there.

[Wilson] What reports have you been receiving from your offices in Gbarnga?

[Taylor] We receive reports that a group attacked my headquarters and another facility in Gbarnga in the early morning two days ago. There was some exchange of fire, and the situation has been brought under control. We are not denying that they.... [pauses] these allegations, but what we are saying is that it is over. It is done with. [end recording]

Taylor: UN, ECOMOG Troops Failed To Stop Gbarnga Attacks

AB1209152894 Paris AFP in English 1503 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Excerpts] Akosombo, Ghana, Sept 12 (AFP)—Leaders of the rival factions in Liberia's bloody civil war are expected to sign a new peace agreement here Monday [12 September], though the control of a key warlord over his troops and headquarters was in doubt.

"The peace talks are proceeding so well that we should wrap everything up by the close of today," Victoria Reffell, spokeswoman of the main armed faction, the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL), said.

However dissidents within the NPFL, one of the three principal parties in the fighting that has killed an estimated 150,000 people in nearly five years, declared themselves in control of its NPFL headquarters at Gbarnga, 160 km (100 miles) north-east of the Liberian capital Monrovia.

The movement's leader, Charles Taylor, has denied that he had lost control of Gbarnga and in a statement issued in Monrovia on Monday the NPFL said there were "a number of scattered attacks by band of armed men on our positions in Gbarnga, but such attacks have now been repulsed." NPFL officials were "still in control of Gbarnga," the group said, meanwhile accusing the UN

observers and the African peacekeeping troops [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group, ECOMOG] deployed in Liberia of doing nothing to stop the attacks. [passage omitted]

The leaders of the three movements and representatives of the interim government have been meeting since Wednesday on a yacht provided by Ghanaian President Jerry Rawlings on Lake Volta near Akosombo.

Representatives of the transitional government set up under the failed peace accord signed in Cotonou, the capital of Benin, in July 1993, also attended.

Reffell declined to give details of the accord to be signed Monday but said it would "improve" on the Cotonou agreement.

Sources said the improvement would be a 10-point "annexe" to the earlier accord, making effective the ceasefire called for in Cotonou and the disarmament of an estimated 60,000 combatants—only 4,000 of whom have so far turned in their weapons.

It should also spell out the nature and the role of the joint bodies set up in Monrovia six months ago, which have been dogged by internal dissent as well as difficulties caused by splits within the armed factions themselves, and set a new date for elections.

An election date had been set under the Cotonou accord for last week but the unabated fighting ruled out holding of any polls. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister: Gbarnga Fighting 'Under Control'

AB1009190394 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 10 Sep 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] It is still not clear who controls Charles Taylor's NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] headquarters at Gbarnga. Reports began to emerge from Liberia yesterday evening that fighting had intensified in the area and perhaps even that Charles Taylor's men had lost control of the town. For some time there had been reports of a split within the NPFL and of ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] and Liberian Peace Council forces active in the area. There has been no direct word today from Gbarnga itself but on the line to Monrovia, Timothee Ecott spoke to the foreign minister of the transitional government, Dorothy Musuleng-Cooper, and asked her what information she has about the fighting:

[Begin recording] [Musuleng-Cooper] As far as we are informed, there were skirmishes around some areas near Gbarnga, Cuttington, and (Kplelle Tuta). There could be skirmishes down the road from Konola but as far as we are informed, our security sources indicate that Gbarnga is still under the control of the NPFL. The fightings and

skirmishes were put under control by General Jacobs who is in charge of the area along with some other senior generals.

[Ecott] So you are suggesting that this news of the fighting around is an attempt by Mr. Woewiyu to gain some political capital for himself?

[Musuleng-Cooper] I would think so. And it is unfortunate that at this stage when people are focused on attempts to resolve the situation, that Mr. Woewiyu, a former member of the NPFL, would be causing this type of unrest and anxiety around the world and in the country.

[Ecott] Are you nervous that that sort of fighting in the Gbarnga region could derail the negotiations in Ghana?

[Musuleng-Cooper] Well, I think that... [pauses] I hope that the people in Ghana are being aware of the kind of propaganda that is normally instituted by people. I hope that they will not allow this news and this propaganda to derail the process in Ghana, because that process takes precedence over anything else. There were rumors in Monrovia that the LNTG [Liberia National Transitional Government] was going to be toppled and members of the LNTG that were nominated by the NPFL were to be arrested. This was of enough consequence that ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] has taken some security measures to avert any such development.

[Ecott] What precisely has ECOMOG been doing then in Liberia while this fighting has been going on?

[Musuleng-Cooper] Well, yesterday evening and the day before, they doubled the security at strategic areas, including the Mansion, and government officials whose homes were supposed to be targeted have been secured by additional men and the patrol of the men of ECOMOG soldiers has increased.

[Ecott] Do you think there is an atmosphere of tension in Monrovia at the moment?

[Musuleng-Cooper] Well, some tension. There is some tension in certain areas because of the uncertainty of what people are planning to do. [end recording]

Factions Reportedly Sign Peace Agreement in Ghana

AB1209184294 Paris AFP in English 1832 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Text] Akosombo, Ghana, Sept 12 (AFP)—The participants in the Liberian summit meeting since last week near Akosombo, 90 km (55 miles), north of Accra, signed a peace agreement Monday [12 September] to end the five-year civil war, it was announced.

The text of the agreement was not immediately made public. The fighting in the west African country has cost an estimated 150,000 lives.

Agree to Cease-Fire

AB1209202794 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 2000 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Text] Leaders of the warring factions of Liberia at their meeting at Akosombo have called for immediate cease-fire by their combatants. This is contained in a peace accord signed by the leaders of the Akosombo peace talks this evening.

The signatories to the accord are Mr. Charles Taylor of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia], General Alhaji Koromah of ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia], and Gen. Bowen of the Liberian Armed Forces.

Those who witnessed the signing were the UN special envoy to Liberia, Mr. Gordon-Somers; the OAU eminent person Reverend Canaan Banana, and the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] commander, Major Gen. John Inienger. Ghana's foreign minister, Dr. Obed Asamoah, chaired the signing ceremony.

The leaders agreed on the holding of elections in Liberia within a year. The interim national government is to stay in until a new government is elected. The three signatories to the Akosombo accord are to be part of a five-member council of state. The other two members are to come from the Liberian Peace Council and a representative elected by both NPFL and ULIMO.

Our correspondent at Akosombo said that the factional leaders reaffirmed their commitment to peace in Liberia and they warmly embraced each other after the peace accord had been signed.

Final Peace Agreement Said Reached at Akosombo Talks

AB1209140094 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 1300 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Text] At the Akosombo talks on Liberia, a final agreement is said to have been reached on peace, which has eluded leaders of the warring factions for years. Our correspondent at Akosombo says a small problem is holding up the signing of the draft accord. The problem is on which of the two ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] factions should sign the document. ULIMO-K headed by Lieutenant General Alhaji Koromah, and ULIMO-J, led by Roosevelt Johnson, are vying to sign for ULIMO as one bloc.

Meanwhile, the central technical committee and representatives of the observer groups are holding consultations to resolve the question of signatories. Our correspondent adds that there are indications that the problem would be resolved to pave way for the final accord to be signed today. The document contains new provisions and amendments to the Cotonou Accord. It was fashioned out of a 10-point agenda drawn up by the

central technical committee comprising representatives of the warring parties. Ghana's team of negotiators is led by Captain Kojo Tsikata.

Transitional Government Official Rejects Draft Accord

AB1209162594 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 12 Sep 94

[From "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] One group which seems to have been sidelined at the negotiations between the Liberian faction leaders in Ghana, is the Monrovia based Transitional Government, the LNTG [Liberia National Transitional Government]. They have not been taking part in the talks directly but they did send a delegation as observers. On the line to Akosombo, Robin White asked the LNTG's deputy information minister, (Hilton Tijay) what he thought of the draft agreement.

[Begin recording] [(Tijay)] We don't like the agreement because, number one, it does not take into consideration the military action on the ground. You have for instance the LPC [Liberia Peace Council], the LPC is not present here, then you have Mr. Taylor who is here to represent his faction but as we know, and you know that yourself Robin, the man has no more control over where he used to call his territory. So why would you want to encourage an agreement with individuals who have no political control?

[White] Have you told people that you don't like that agreement?

[(Tijay)] Yes, we have told them that. We have tried to encourage the Ghanaian Government, the Ghanaian authorities. We have tried to encourage the OAU representative here as well as the United Nations representative, not to encourage this agreement because we believe it will not be implementable.

[White] What are you going to do now?

[(Tijay)] Oh, what can we do? The agreement is just not going to be accepted. We cannot surrender the civilian authority of the Republic of Liberia to a military junta which ... [pauses] we have no authority to do that. [end recording]

Nigeria

Commentary Views CIA Plots To 'Destabilize' Country

AB1009202094 Kaduna Radio Nigeria in English 1700 GMT 10 Sep 94

[Commentary by Mahamadu Baba Ndada]

[Text] The 4 September issue of the Kaduna-based STANDARD newspaper today carried startling revelations of genocidal plots against Nigeria by America's

Central Intelligence Agency, notoriously known as the CIA. These revelations were made public by a very well-known political figure in the person of (Mazi Eze Ikoko).

These unwholesome plots to kill, maim Nigerians, and render their children orphans are hatched by the CIA, using unpatriotic and greedy Nigerians as their mercenaries and running dogs. Such (?ugly) Nigerians are disguised under various political colors as the so-called human rights and pro-democracy groups. They are nothing but a bunch of hirelings whose job it is to render a (?pointless) service to a foreign power to dismember their dear country and subjugate it to insanity.

Since the end of the Second World War to date, the United States has had an ugly record of involvement in the internal affairs of smaller nations of Africa, Latin America, and Asia. In the beginning such (?known) involvements were carried out by America in what it brazenly termed the containment of Communism.

It was under this disguise that the United States provoked the Korean War of 1950-52, using the United Nations to legitimize its involvement. In 1954, the CIA brought a great havoc on the Guatemalan people in Latin America by imposing on them a surrogate military junta that was merciless to the core.

The 1954 and 1960 Geneva peace agreements on Vietnam were torpedoed by the United States. As a result, the Vietnamese had to go to war and for 14 years they fought hard to drive away the Americans from the fatherland, which they successfully did.

Here in Africa, we can recall that it was the CIA that engineered the brutal murder of Patrice Lumumba in January 1961 during the Congo crisis in what is today called Zaire. The independence of Angola and Mozambique were nearly wrecked by the CIA using political cowards to form and fund rebel organizations in these two countries to deny the people there the peace they needed for the reconstruction of their countries after three centuries of Portuguese colonial rule. Even now, America's shadow is clearly hovering over the wars raging in Liberia, Somalia, and the Sudan.

The CIA spreads its monstrous tentacles of subversion in all (?sectors) of a nation's life. It is operating in schools, religious groups, the trade unions, and cultural organizations. In the high-up [as heard], the CIA uses huge funds to penetrate higher sources of government to collect enough state secrets to enable it launch its offensives.

The CIA is also using the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to subjugate developing nations by imposing unbearable conditionalities on whatever loans these nations, including Nigeria, receive from them. The aim is always to deny rapid industrial progress to these countries.

In fact, that was why some four years ago, the World Bank asked Nigeria to scrap the Ajaokuta Iron and Steel Project after nearly 20 years of construction and a huge investment of more than \$12 billion. The iron and steel project will give the nation a good industrial foundation which America does not like, either now or in the future.

From the revelations made to us by (Mazi Eze Ikoko), we can all understand that the industrial actions, embarked upon by NUPENG [National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers] and others, whose leadership was sacked by the government, were instigated by the CIA. Six months' salaries were paid in advance to senior NUPENG officials so that they can coerce their members to go on strike until the economy is totally wrecked to enable them to cause a fratricidal war among citizens and render the country into a new colony for the so-called international relief organizations from Europe and America where our children and wives would be fed scraps of biscuits and pet food as we see happening in Rwanda and other war-torn nations.

The CIA's mysterious plots to destabilize Nigeria or dismember it into mini-states were being hatched since 1983 in gradual steps. Since the CIA is an integral part of any administration in America, either Republican or Democrat, we surely expect such ungodly plots to continue for the next century. Therefore, it is our duty as good Nigerians to remain vigilant for as long as it is necessary in order to stop our enemies, both internal and external, from achieving their devilish and ignoble objectives.

Abacha Meets Plateau State Delegates; Calls For Dialogue

AB0909184394 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1500 GMT 9 Sep 94

[Text] The head of state, General Sani Abacha, has spoken of the need for all Nigerians to reflect on the experiences of the past and engage in dialogue on all aspects of the country's development methods. Gen. Abacha made the appeal in Abuja today, when he received representatives of the people of Plateau State on a solidarity visit. The head of state referred particularly to political events of last year, which he said were not in the interest of the nation.

He called on all patriots to utilize the constitutional conference as an avenue to find solutions to the problems. Gen. Abacha said it was a forum where any Nigerian with any social, or political, or economic (?grudge) could turn to for dialogue.

Minister Commends Southwest Delegates for Conference Role

AB1009180294 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 0600 GMT 10 Sep 94

[Text] The minister of communications, Alhaji Abubakar Rimi, has commended the decision of delegates from the southwestern part of the country to

continue their participation in the national constitutional conference. In a statement in Lagos yesterday, the minister said the position taken by the delegates showed their high degree of maturity, patriotism, and was worthy of emulation.

He urged them to remain steadfast in their decision to join hands with other Nigerians to resolve whatever problems confronting the nation. Alhaji Abubakar Rimi said Nigerians must forge ahead to build a strong and united country that was destined to play a leadership role in the African continent and the comity of nations.

He emphasized that violence and destruction of lives and property would not resolve issues.

Doctors: Opposition Leader Abiola Too Sick for Trial

AB0909191094 Paris AFP in English 1856 GMT 9 Sep 94

[Text] Lagos, Sept 9 (AFP)—Jailed Nigerian opposition leader Moshood Abiola needs urgent specialist medical help and will not be able to attend the resumption of his treason trial, the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) said in a statement Friday [9 September].

The opposition leader's health had shown a "sudden deterioration," the association said without specifying the nature of the illness.

"The government may wish to continue its prosecution of Abiola if it so desires but this can only be done when he is well enough to stand trial," the association said.

"Abiola has been advised to adhere strictly to supervised bed rest pending arrangement for the diagnostic procedures, it added.

"We are therefore asking government to allow Abiola to be moved to an appropriate centre for the required definitive diagnostic tests and treatment."

Abiola was examined on Tuesday and Wednesday by four doctors, including his own doctor, Dr. Ore Falome, in a hospital near Aso Rock, outside the federal capital Abuja.

On 3 September, the NMA said in a statement it understood Abiola was suffering from "musculo-skeletal and neurological problems, which have placed him in agony with persistent and excruciating pains."

The 57-year-old publishing magnate is the presumed winner of presidential elections held last year and declared free and fair by international observers but annulled by the military, which claimed irregularities in the spending on the election.

The regime arrested Abiola in June this year after he declared the regime illegitimate and proclaimed himself rightful president and army chief of staff.

Abiola's trial was suspended last month after the presiding judge withdrew from the case. It is due to resume on Monday.

Urgent Treatment Recommended

AB1209115094 Lagos Voice of Nigeria in English 1030 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Text] Hearing in a case of alleged treasonable felony by a Nigerian politician, Chief Moshood Abiola, is expected to resume today in Abuja amid recommendations that Chief Abiola is not physically fit to stand trial for now. The Nigerian Medical Association, NMA, had written to the Federal High Court judge handling the case to consider its request that Chief Abiola be transferred to appropriate medical center within or outside the country for urgent medical treatment.

The NMA, which conducted a test on Chief Abiola at the State House clinic in Abuja, said he could not appear in court until he had been certified fit. The hearing, which ought to have commenced on 29 August, did not take place because neither the judge nor Chief Abiola was present in court. Mr. Justice C.P. Senlong has been appointed to handle the case after Mr. Justice Abdullahi Mustapha withdrew from the case on 16 August because of what he considered a loss of confidence in his ability to conduct a fair trial.

Abiola Absent, Trial Adjourned

AB1209142494 Paris AFP in English 1411 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Text] Abuja, 12 Sep (AFP)—The treason trial of Nigerian opposition leader Moshood Abiola resumed Monday [12 September] in the federal capital Abuja, but the judge soon ordered a new adjournment because the ailing politician was absent.

Abuja police chief Mohammed Yusuf told the court that the Muslim millionaire had simply refused to attend the hearing, but Abiola's lawyers objected to this explanation and asked to be allowed to present a medical report.

The presiding judge, Chris Senlong, did not allow the defence to question the police chief but heard Abiola's lawyers on a statement by the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA), which last week said his health had shown a "sudden deterioration" and examined him.

On Tuesday, the court is to rule on a request from the NMA to have the trial delayed and conduct more medical tests on Abiola, who was detained in June after he declared himself head of state on the strength of elections he is presumed to have won a year earlier. The poll was annulled by the military junta, which alleged irregularities though international observers had billed it free and fair.

Case Adjourned Until 13 Sep

AB1209185294 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1800 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Text] The Federal High Court has adjourned hearing till tomorrow in the trial of Chief Moshood Abiola for

treason felony. The new judge handling the case, Mr. Justice Chris Senlong, announced the adjournment following the absence of Chief Abiola in court. The solicitor general of the Federation, a leading counsel for the prosecution, Mr. (Tuchuku Onwugbofor), had told the court that Chief Abiola refused to (?follow the advice) of the court.

Federal Government Drops Justice Minister From Cabinet

AB1209183194 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1800 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Text] The minister of justice and attorney general of the Federation, Dr. Olu Onagoruwa, has been dropped from the cabinet. He has been replaced by a senior advocate of Nigeria, Mr. (Michael Agbamuche). A statement signed by the secretary to the Government of the Federation, Alhaji Aminu Saleh, says the appointment of Mr. (Agbamuche) is with immediate effect. The former justice minister, Dr. Onagoruwa, last week complained publicly that neither he nor the minister of justice was aware of (?eight) decrees published the military government. [sentence as heard] He told a press conference in Lagos that the decrees were never discussed by the Provisional Ruling Council, the country's highest decisionmaking body.

Government Said To Act Against Adverse Foreign Reporting

AB0909214194 Paris AFP in English 1931 GMT 9 Sep 94

[Text] Lagos, Sept 9 (AFP)—The Nigerian Government said Friday [9 September] it was planning urgent steps to take against what he [as received] called adverse reports by foreign media organisations, the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) reported here.

Minister of Information Jerry Gana, speaking in Aba, the capital of the eastern Abia State, refused to say what these steps are.

Gana urged Nigerians working for international media organisations not to undermine their country.

On 26 August the government expelled two journalists of the U.S. satellite television service CNN. No reason has yet been given officially for the expulsion.

Earlier this week, the government banned the publications of three major private press groups: THE GUARDIAN, the CONCORD and THE PUNCH.

The move was part of a crackdown by the military government following the collapse of a strike by oil unions seeking to oust the government and restore civilian democratic rule.

The government is still conducting a trial of opposition leader Moshood Abiola on treason charges after he

declared himself president of the country one year after he was judged to have won elections annulled by the military.

Lawyers Challenge Military Government Decrees

AB0909210194 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 9 Sep 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Two Nigerian lawyers are trying to challenge this week's draconian decrees issued by General Sani Abacha's military government. They gave the government absolute powers and lengthened the time of detention without trial. They also banned a number of Nigeria's most powerful newspapers and [words indistinct] lying down. From Lagos Sola Odunfa reports:

[Begin Odunfa recording] The lawyers are asking the Federal High Court to nullify the decrees. The two are the leading counsel to three newspapers which were proscribed by one of the decrees. Chief Gani Fawehinmi, counsel to THE PUNCH and CONCORD newspapers, is challenging all eight decrees published in the official gazette, on the grounds that they were not made by the Provisional Ruling Council, as provided for by law. He bases his action on Wednesday's [7 September] public statement by Justice Minister Olu Onagoruwa disowning the decrees. Dr. Onagoruwa has said that the decrees were never discussed at the Provisional Ruling Council, of which he is a member, and that the Justice Ministry was not aware of their existence. Chief Fawehinmi is now asking the court to stop the government from enforcing the laws.

Meanwhile, the government has consented to demands by the Nigerian Medical Association that it allows Chief Moshood Abiola to receive medical attention from his doctors. The association raised alarm last weekend over the health of Chief Abiola, following a scuffle he was said to have had with a police officer. Chief Abiola is in detention on charges of treason. It has now been disclosed that the government, this week, allowed four specialists from the Medical Association and his personal doctor to examine and treat Chief Abiola at the clinic at the Presidential Villa in Abuja. Reports say that Chief Abiola's health has since improved, but for his right leg, which is said to be swollen. [end recording]

Minister Defends Proscription of Papers

AB0909084094 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 0600 GMT 9 Sep 94

[Text] The minister of information and culture, Professor Jerry Gana, says the proscription of three newspapers and two magazines is to promote peace and progress in the country. He told the correspondent of NTA Abuja that no government would compromise the corporate existence of the country under the guise of press freedom. Prof. Gana said publications by the media houses scrapped had threatened the unity and

corporate existence of the country. He said that although the decision to proscribe the newspapers and magazines was sad and unfortunate, it had to be taken in the interest of the security of the nation. The minister of information said it was against what government had set out to do. He added that government had always believed in press freedom but emphasized that the freedom had to be with responsibility.

Human Rights Activist Questioned, Released on Bail

AB1209184494 Paris AFP in English 1835 GMT 12 Sep 94

[Text] Lagos, Sept 12 (AFP)—Nigerian democracy activist Beko Ransome-Kuti told AFP Monday [12 September] he had been questioned by police here Monday over two letters allegedly written to two foreign oil companies during the recent anti-government oil strike.

Ransome-Kuti, who is the chairman of the Campaign for Democracy, was released on bail after questioning on the letters said to have been written to Agip Oil Company and Mobil Oil Producing Company.

The interrogation lasted for about four hours at the police headquarters in Lagos, and the democracy activist was asked to return on Wednesday for further questioning, Ransome-Kuti told AFP. He did not give details of his interrogation by the police. "I was shown some documents, but I will reserve my comments," he said.

An eight-week strike by oil workers attempting to force the release of jailed opposition leader Moshood Abiola and his installation as president ended last week after a gradual return to work.

During the strike, the military government reported threats by the striking unions to destroy petroleum installations and warnings against foreign oil companies who were undermining the strike.

150 Tankers Dispatched To Supply Fuel to North

AB1009163694 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 0600 GMT 10 Sep 94

[Text] A total of 150 tankers loaded with petrol have been dispatched to three points in the northern part of the country as part of efforts to ease the fuel problem. These are Kano, Jos, and Maiduguri. The minister of petroleum and mineral resources, Chief Don Etiebet, disclosed this yesterday in an interview with Radio Nigeria energy correspondents. He said all the refineries in Port Harcourt, Warri, and Kaduna were back on stream. Chief Etiebet gives an account of the situation at these refineries.

[Begin Etiebet recording] The latest, one by one on the refineries, taking Port Harcourt first, is that you know it was shut down in the wake of the strike.... [pauses] in the

middle of the strike action, and since the workers resumed work the Port Harcourt refinery, it has been restreamed fully since about two weeks ago, and it has been producing at its full capacity.

And Warri was shut down since in February for general maintenance. The maintenance itself has been completed but what they call drying up period, that is, putting steam and gas, you know, to dry up the whole area before they put in crude, you know, was going on, and I think that had been completed by last weekend. So, this week they are certain to work with crude. So, again, by next week Warri refinery should be producing products.

Kaduna has been working with the ACC [Automatic Combustion Control] unit activated after its repairs and as a result it is producing at over 3 million liters of PMS [expansion unknown] and associated products per day, which is a great improvement on the 1.2 millions liters of PMS it was producing before. All the units are not fully activated yet, particularly what they call the Crude Distillating Unit No. 2. That unit is awaiting some materials and crude. That is the unit that uses heavy crude imported from Saudi Arabia and so on. So we hope to restream that one by the middle of October. So by the end of October all the units in Kaduna refinery will be on stream. [end recording]

Chief Etiebet said kerosene was now available at the various depots, pointing out that the current scarcity in Lagos area was caused by distribution and appealed to Nigerians to be patient.

Abuja Fuel Supply Improves 'Considerably'

AB1109140494 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 0600 GMT 11 Sep 94

[Text] The fuel situation in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, has improved considerably. A Radio Nigeria Network news correspondent reports that motorists now spend less than five minutes before being attended to.

The long queues, which had been a regular feature at filling stations for almost two years, have disappeared. The manager of a filling station in Wese District attributed the situation to the daily supply of fuel.

Motorists interviewed expressed gratitude to the Federal Government for tackling the problem and hoped that the present situation would be stable.

Government To Export Petroleum Products, Check Smuggling

AB1109183794 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1800 GMT 11 Sep 94

[Text] The Federal Government has embarked on a program to check the rampant smuggling of petroleum

products across the country's borders. Under it, more departments are being set up while existing ones are being expanded to store the commodity effectively and to check malpractices in the distribution system.

The minister of petroleum and mineral resources, Chief Don Etiebet, told newsmen in Lagos that Nigeria would also start selling refined petroleum products to other countries in the West African sub-region to curtail the activities of smugglers. Chief Etiebet said the measure would also earn additional revenue for the country.

At present, the petroleum products sold to West African countries by Nigeria are not processed.

Kano State NNPC Depot Chief Arrested Over Fuel Delays

AB0909224294 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 9 Sep 94

[Text] The Kano State administrator, Colonel Mohamed Wase, has ordered the arrest of the NNPC [Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation] depot chief in the state, (Alhaji Ado Omar Lakasai). He is to explain why fuel supply in the state is being delayed. Col. Wase said during a visit to the petroleum depot that (?Federal) Government is fully aware of the petty cases of connivance between NNPC officials and marketers. He warned that he will take drastic actions against saboteurs of the fuel distribution system.

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